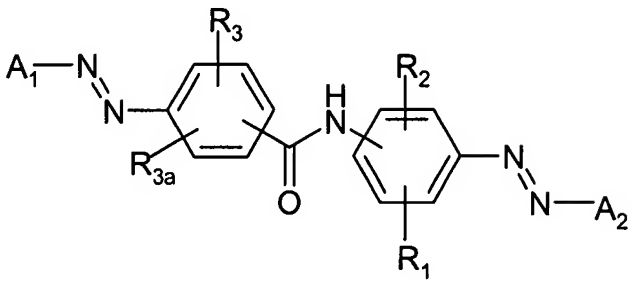
In the Claims

1. (currently amended) A compound of the formula



(1),

in which

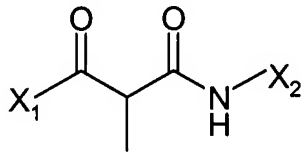
R_1 represents hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_8alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_8alkoxy or SO_3H,

R_2 represents SO_3H or CO_2H,

R_3 and R_{3a} each, independently of the other, represent hydrogen, a C_1-C_4alkyl group, which may be substituted or unsubstituted, halogen, hydroxy, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_4alkoxy, carboxy, NH_2 or NHC_1-C_4alkyl and each of the residues

A_1 and A_2, independently of the other, is ~~derived from a coupling component~~ selected from the group consisting of

an acetoacetylated amine of the formula



(2),

in which

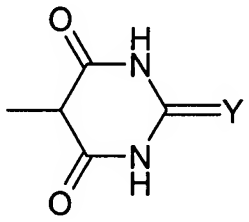
X_1 represents C_1-C_4alkyl, or phenyl which is unsubstituted or monosubstituted by C_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy or halogen and

X_2 represents phenyl which is unsubstituted, mono-, di- or trisubstituted by one or two SO_3H, SO_2NHC_1-C_4 alkyl groups which alkyl groups may be substituted, SO_2C_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxy, C_1-C_4alkoxy, halogen, CF_3, NH_2, $NHCOC_1$-C_4alkyl, $NHCOOC_1$-C_4alkyl, $NHCONHC_1$-C_4alkyl, CO_2H, $CONHC_1$-C_4alkyl or NO_2;

a 1- or 2-naphthyl residue which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or two SO_3H, SO_2NHC_1-C_4alkyl, carboxy, $CONHC_1$-C_4alkyl, carboxyC_1-C_4alkyl or carboxyaryl groups or

a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring containing 1-3 heteroatoms and which may be benzannelated and be further substituted by C_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy or halogen and which may be attached to the NH-atom in formula (2) either via the hetero- or benzo-nucleus, in the case of benzannelated heterocycles;

a derivative of barbituric acid of the formula



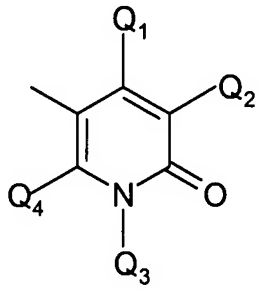
(3),

in which

Y represents O, NCN or $NCONH_2$;

a 2,4,6-triaminopyrimidine derivative;

a pyridone derivative of the formula



(4),

in which

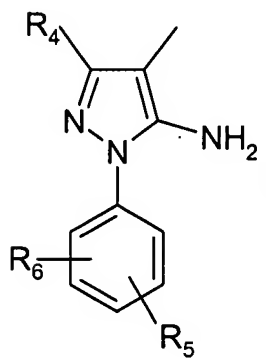
Q_1 represents hydrogen, hydroxy, C_1-C_2alkyl, hydroxyethyl, 2-(C_1-C_2alkoxy)alkyl, C_1-C_2alkoxy, COOH, $CONH_2$ or $COOC_1$-C_2alkyl,

Q2 represents hydrogen, CN, CONH2, halogen, SO3H or C1-C2alkyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by hydroxy, phenyl or SO3H,

Q_3 represents hydrogen, phenyl, C_1-C_2alkylphenyl, cyclohexyl or C_1-C_4alkyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by hydroxy, CN, C_1-C_2alkoxy or SO_3H and

Q_4 represents hydrogen or hydroxy;

an aminopyrazole or a pyrazolone derivative of formula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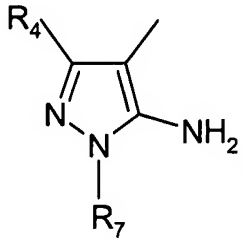
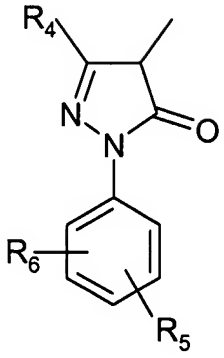
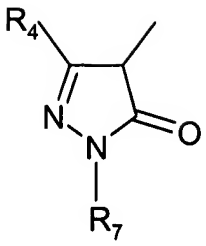

(6),

(7) or

(8),

in which

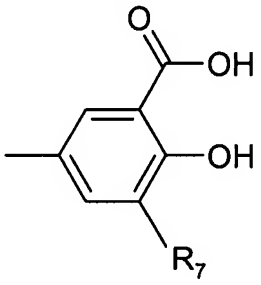
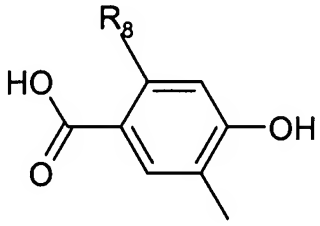
R_4 represents hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_4alkyl, C_2-C_4alkenyl, $NHCOC_1$-C_4alkyl or CO_2H, each

R_5 and R_6, independently of the other, represent hydrogen, halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl, SO_3H or CO_2H and

R_7 represents hydrogen or C_1-C_4alkyl;

and

a benzoic acid derivative of formula


(9) or

(10),

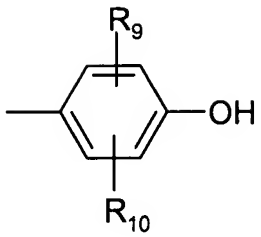
in which

R_7 represents hydrogen or C_1-C_4alkyl and

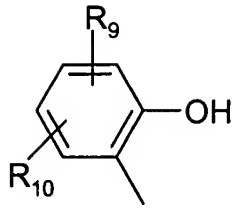
R_8 represents hydrogen or hydroxy,

or

A_1 and A_2, each one independently of the other, represent a phenol residue of the formula


(11)

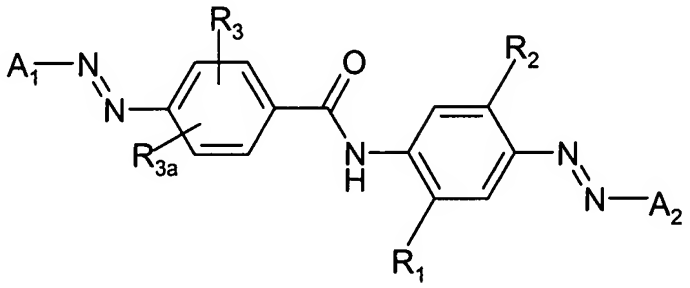
or


(12),

in which

R_9 and R_{10}, each one independently of the other, represent hydrogen, C_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy, hydroxy, halogen, NH_2, $NHCOC_1$-C_4alkyl, NO_2, SO_3H, CO_2C_1-C_4alkyl or $CONHC_1$-C_4alkyl groups,

with the proviso that in compounds of formula


(13),

if

R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_{3a} each, independently of the others, are hydrogen or SO_3H, then

A_1 and A_2 are not both a 1-phenyl or 1-sulphophenyl-3-methyl-5-aminopyrazole residue,

or, if

R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_{3a} represent hydrogen and

A_1 is a residue of formula (9) in which

R_7 represents hydrogen or methyl, then

A_2 does not represent a 1-phenyl or 1-sulphophenyl-3-methyl- or 3-carboxy pyrazol-5-one residue

or, if

R_1, R_3 and R_{3a} are hydrogen and R_2 is SO_3H and one of

A_1 and A_2 represents a 1-sulphophenyl-3-methyl pyrazol-5-one residue, then the other is not a residue of formula (11) in which both

R_9 and R_{10} are hydrogen, or if

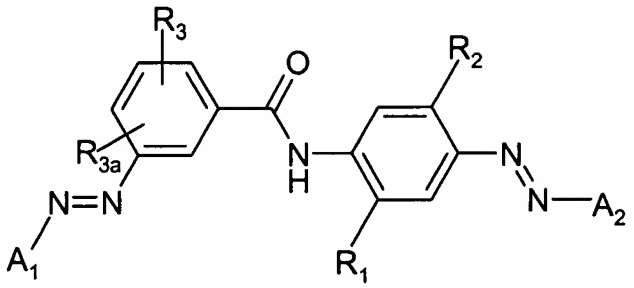
A_1 represents a 1-nitrophenyl-, a 1-phenyl- or an unsubstituted 3-methyl pyrazol-5-one residue,

A_2 is not a residue of formula (9) in which R_7 represents hydrogen, or if

R_1, R_3 and R_{3a} represent hydrogen, R_2 is CO_2H and

A_1 represents a residue of formula (9), in which R_7 is hydrogen,
A_2 is not a residue of formula (2) or formula (7);

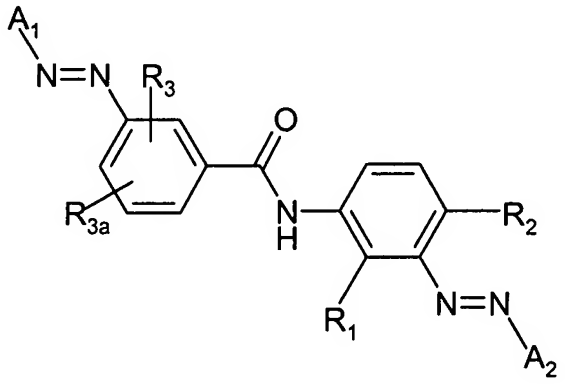
in compounds of the formula



(14),

if
R_2 represents CO_2H, R_3 represents hydroxy or methoxy and R_{3a} represents hydrogen,
A_1 and A_2 do not represent residues of formulae (2) or (7) and,

in compounds of the formula

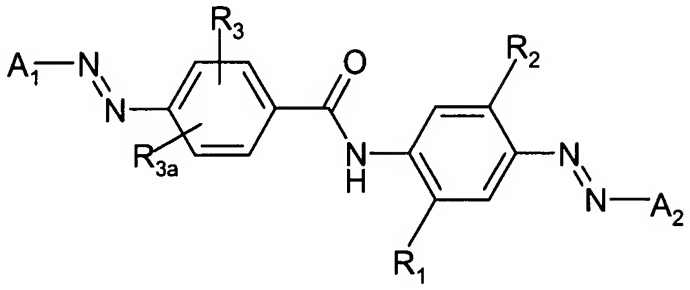


(16),

if
R_2 represents SO_3H and R_3 and R_{3a} both represent hydrogen,
A_1 and A_2 are not both 2,4-dihydroxyphenyl.

2. (original) A compound of formula (1), according to claim **1**, which contains a total number of two, three or four SO_3H and/or CO_2H groups.

3. (currently amended) A compound of the formula



(13),

according to claim **1**, in which

R_1 represents hydrogen, C_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy or SO_3H,

R_2 represents SO_3H or CO_2H,

R_3 represents hydrogen, a C_1-C_4alkyl group, halogen, hydroxy, C_1-C_4alkoxy, carboxy, NH_2 or NHC_1-C_4alkyl~~[[,]]~~ and

R_{3a} represents hydrogen or NH_2 ~~and~~

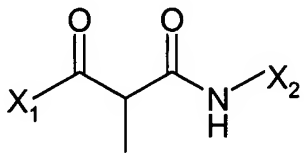
~~A_1 and A_2 are as defined in claim 1~~.

4. (currently amended) A compound of formula (13), according to claim **3**, in which

R_3 and R_{3a} both represent hydrogen and

A_1 and A_2, each one independently of the other, is ~~derived from a coupling component~~ selected from the group consisting of

an acetoacetylated amine of the formula



(2),

in which

X_1 represents C_1-C_4alkyl, and

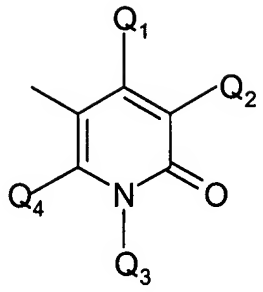
X_2 represents phenyl, which is unsubstituted, mono-, di- or trisubstituted by SO_3H, C_1-C_4alkyl, hydroxy, C_1-C_4alkoxy, halogen or CO_2H;

barbituric acid or cyanoiminobarbituric acid;

2,4,6-triaminopyrimidine;

citrazinic acid;

a pyridone derivative of the formula



(4),

in which

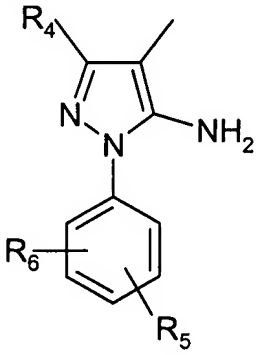
Q_1 represents C_1-C_2alkyl,

Q_2 represents CN, $CONH_2$ or CH_2SO_3H,

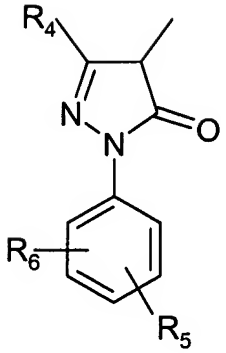
Q_3 represents C_1-C_2alkyl and

Q_4 represents hydroxy;

an aminopyrazole or a pyrazolone derivative of formula



(5) or



(7),

in which

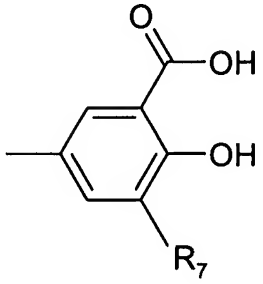
R_4 represents C_1-C_4alkyl or CO_2H,

R_5 represents hydrogen, halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl, SO_3H or CO_2H and

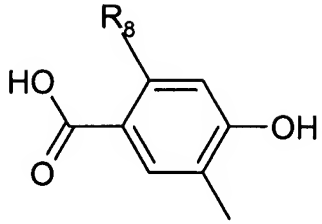
R_6 represents hydrogen;

and

a benzoic acid derivative of formula



(9) or



(10),

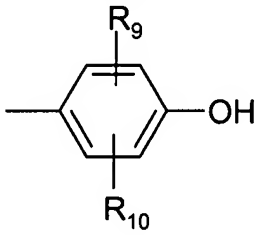
in which

R_7 represents hydrogen or C_1-C_4alkyl and

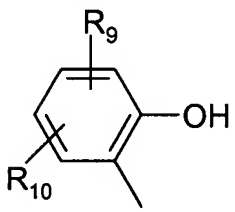
R_8 represents hydrogen or hydroxy,

or

A_1 and A_2, each one independently of the other, represent a phenol residue of the formula



(11) or



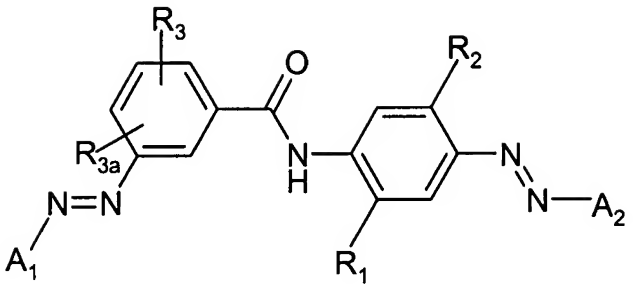
(12),

in which

R_9 represents hydrogen, C_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy, hydroxy, halogen or SO_3H and

R_{10} represents hydrogen.

5. (currently amended) A compound of formula



(14),

according to claim **1**, in which

R_1 represents hydrogen, C_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy or SO_3H,

R_2 represents SO_3H or CO_2H,

R_3 represents hydrogen, a C_1-C_4alkyl group, halogen, hydroxy, C_1-C_4alkoxy, carboxy, NH_2 or NHC_1-C_4alkyl**[[,]]** and

R_{3a} represents hydrogen or NH_2 ~~and~~

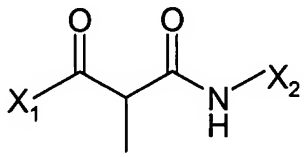
~~A_1 and A_2 are as defined in claim 1~~.

6. (currently amended) A compound of formula (14), according to claim **5**, in which

R_3 and R_{3a} both represent hydrogen and

A_1 and A_2, each one independently of the other, is ~~derived from a coupling component~~ selected from the group consisting of

an acetoacetylated amine of the formula



(2),

in which

X_1 represents C_1-C_4alkyl, and

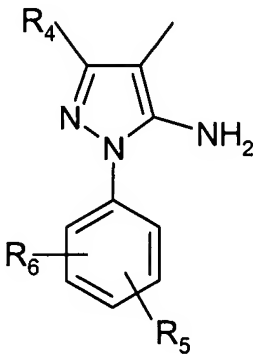
X_2 represents phenyl, which is unsubstituted, mono-, di- or trisubstituted by SO_3H, C_1-C_4alkyl, hydroxy, C_1-C_4alkoxy, halogen or CO_2H;

barbituric acid or cyanoiminobarbituric acid;

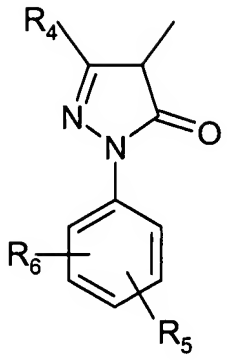
2,4,6-triaminopyrimidine;

citrazinic acid;

an aminopyrazole or a pyrazolone derivative of formula



(5) or



(7),

in which

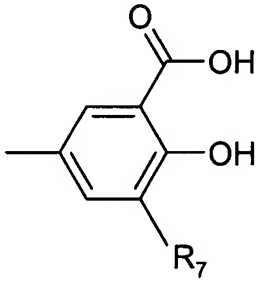
R_4 represents C_1-C_4alkyl or CO_2H,

R_5 represents hydrogen, halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl, SO_3H or CO_2H and

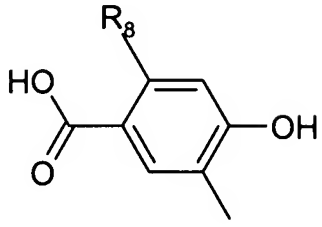
R_6 represents hydrogen;

and

a benzoic acid derivative of formula



(9) or



(10),

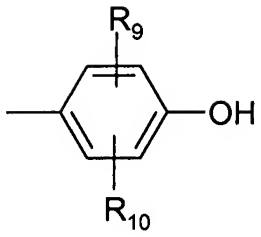
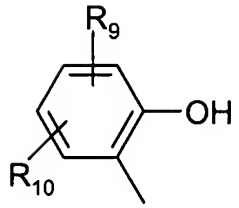
in which

R_7 represents hydrogen or C_1-C_4alkyl and

R_8 represents hydrogen or hydroxy.

or

A_1 and A_2, each one independently of the other, represent a phenol residue of the formula

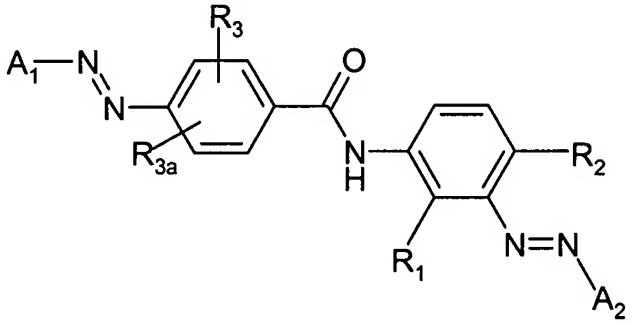

(11) or

(12),

in which

R_9 represents hydrogen, C_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy, hydroxy, halogen or SO_3H and

R_{10} represents hydrogen.

7. (currently amended) A compound of formula


(15),

according to claim **1**, in which

R_1 represents hydrogen, C_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy or SO_3H,

R_2 represents SO_3H or CO_2H,

R_3 represents hydrogen, a C_1-C_4alkyl group, halogen, hydroxy, C_1-C_4alkoxy, carboxy, NH_2 or NHC_1-C_4alkyl**[[,]]** and

R_{3a} represents hydrogen or NH_2 ~~and~~

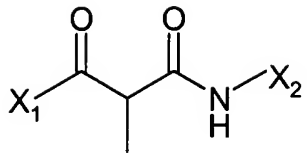
~~A_1 and A_2 are as defined in claim 1~~.

8. (currently amended) A compound of formula (15), according to claim **7**, in which

R_3 and R_{3a} both represent hydrogen and

A_1 and A_2, each one independently of the other, is ~~derived from a coupling component~~ selected from the group consisting of

an acetoacetylated amine of the formula



(2),

in which

X_1 represents C_1-C_4alkyl, and

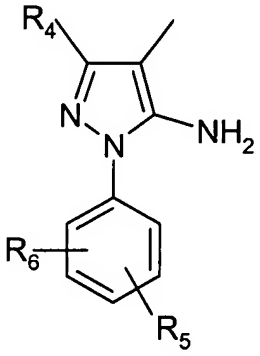
X_2 represents phenyl, which is unsubstituted, mono-, di- or trisubstituted by SO_3H, C_1-C_4alkyl, hydroxy, C_1-C_4alkoxy, halogen or CO_2H;

barbituric acid or cyanoiminobarbituric acid;

2,4,6-triaminopyrimidine;

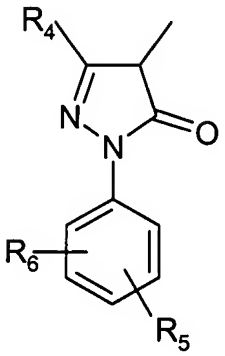
citrazinic acid;

an aminopyrazole or a pyrazolone derivative of formula



(5)

or



(7),

in which

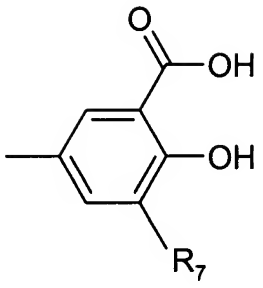
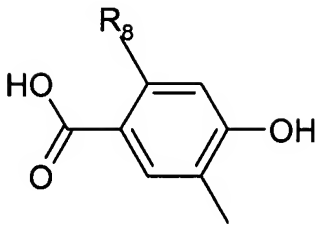
R_4 represents C_1-C_4alkyl or CO_2H,

R_5 represents hydrogen, halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl, SO_3H or CO_2H and

R_6 represents hydrogen;

and

a benzoic acid derivative of formula


(9) or

(10),

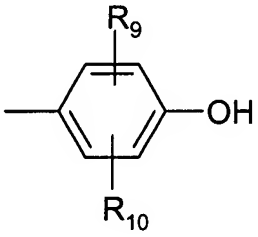
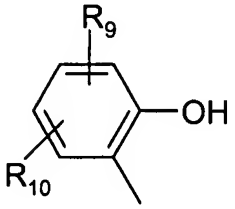
in which

R_7 represents hydrogen or C_1-C_4alkyl and

R_8 represents hydrogen or hydroxy,

or

A_1 and A_2, each one independently of the other, represent a phenol residue of the formula

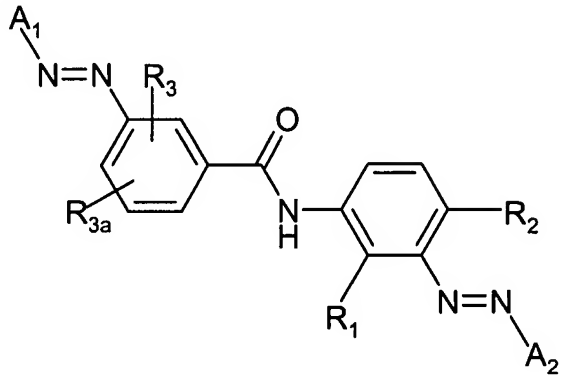

(11) or

(12),

in which

R_9 represents hydrogen, C_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy, hydroxy, halogen or SO_3H and

R_{10} represents hydrogen.

9. (currently amended) A compound of formula


(16),

according to claim **1**, in which

R_1 represents hydrogen, C_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy or SO_3H,

R_2 represents SO_3H or CO_2H,

R_3 represents hydrogen, a C_1-C_4alkyl group, halogen, hydroxy, C_1-C_4alkoxy, carboxy, NH_2 or NHC_1-C_4alkyl**[[,]]** and

R_{3a} represents hydrogen or NH_2 ~~and~~

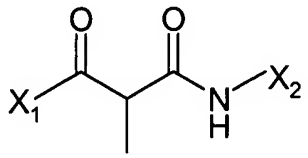
~~A_1 and A_2 are as defined in claim 1~~.

10. (currently amended) A compound of formula (16), according to claim **9**, in which

R_3 and R_{3a} both represent hydrogen and

A_1 and A_2, each one independently of the other, is ~~derived from a coupling component~~ selected from the group consisting of

an acetoacetylated amine of the formula



(2),

in which

X_1 represents C_1-C_4alkyl, and

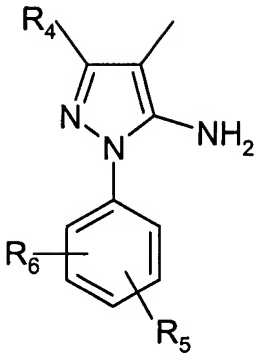
X_2 represents phenyl, which is unsubstituted, mono-, di- or trisubstituted by SO_3H, C_1-C_4alkyl, hydroxy, C_1-C_4alkoxy, halogen or CO_2H;

barbituric acid or cyanoiminobarbituric acid;

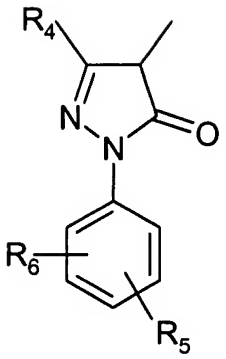
2,4,6-triaminopyrimidine;

citrazinic acid;

an aminopyrazole or a pyrazolone derivative of formula



(5) or



(7),

in which

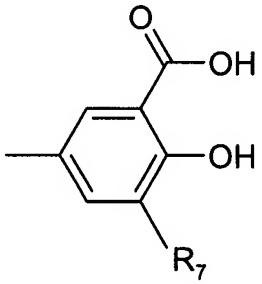
R_4 represents C_1-C_4alkyl or CO_2H,

R_5 represents hydrogen, halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl, SO_3H or CO_2H and

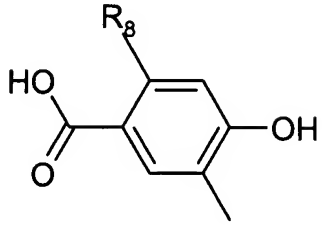
R_6 represents hydrogen;

and

a benzoic acid derivative of formula



(9) or



(10),

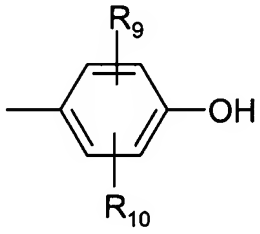
in which

R_7 represents hydrogen or C_1-C_4alkyl and

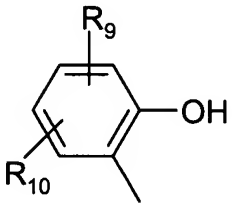
R_8 represents hydrogen or hydroxy,

or

A_1 and A_2, each one independently of the other, represent a phenol residue of the formula



(11) or



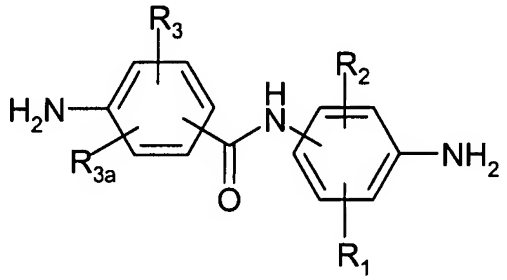
(12),

in which

R_9 represents hydrogen, C_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy, hydroxy, halogen or SO_3H and
R_{10} represents hydrogen.

11. (currently amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (1), according to claim **1**,

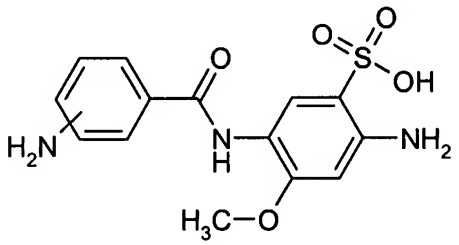
by tetrazotisation of a diaminobenzanilide derivative of the formula



(17),

~~in which R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_{3a} are as defined in claim 1~~**[[,]]** and sequential coupling with a coupling component of the formula A_1H or A_2H, followed by coupling with a coupling component of the formula A_2H or A_1H**[[,]]**~~A_2 and A_1 being as defined in claim 1~~.

12. (original) A compound of the formula



(18).

13. (previously presented) A process for the preparation of compound (18), according to claim **12**, by reaction of 2-methoxy-4-nitroaniline-5-sulphonic acid with the appropriate nitrobenzoyl halide, followed by reduction of the resulting dintrobenzanilide.

14. (canceled)

15. (previously presented) A process for dyeing natural or synthetic materials, comprising contacting said materials with a tinctorially effective amount of a compound of the formula (1) according to claim **1**, and, optionally, further auxiliaries.

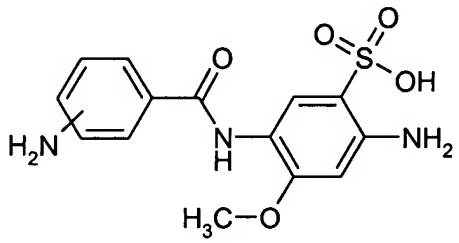
16. (original) A solid dye preparation for dyeing paper, comprising a compound of the formula (1) according to claim **1**, and, optionally, further auxiliaries.

17. (original) Aqueous solutions for dyeing paper, comprising a compound of the formula (1), according to claim **1**, and, optionally, further auxiliaries.

18. (original) Aqueous solutions according to claim **17** containing, as further auxiliaries, solubilizers and/or organic solvents.

19. (previously presented) Paper which is dyed with a compound of the formula (1), according to claim **1**.

20. (currently amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (1), according to claim **1**, by tetrazotisation of a diaminobenzanilide derivative of the formula



(18)

and sequential coupling with a coupling component of the formula A_1H or A_2H, followed by coupling with a coupling component of the formula A_2H or A_1H[[,]]~~A_2 and A_4 being as defined in claim 1~~.